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Advancement of women: advancement of women

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Intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 61/143 of 19 December 2006 and 62/133 of 18 December 2007, and all its previous resolutions on the elimination of violence against women,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and reaffirming also that discrimination on the basis of sex is contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[1] and other international human rights instruments, and that its elimination is an integral part of efforts towards the elimination of all forms of violence against women,

Reaffirming also the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[2] the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[3] the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[2] See resolution 48/104.
[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

08-58625 (E) 051108

equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4] and the declaration adopted at the forty-ninth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,[5]

Reaffirming further the international commitments in the field of social development and to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the World Conference on Human Rights, the International Conference on Population and Development, the World Summit for Social Development and the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, as well as those made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[6] and at the 2005 World Summit, and noting the attention paid to the elimination of all forms of violence against indigenous women in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007,

Recalling the inclusion of gender-related crimes and crimes of sexual violence in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[7] as well as the recognition by the ad hoc international criminal tribunals that rape can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity or a constitutive act with respect to genocide or torture,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and welcoming the adoption of Council resolution 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008 on women and peace and security,

Deeply concerned about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls in all its different forms and manifestations worldwide, and reiterating the need to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls throughout the world,

Recognizing that violence against women is rooted in historically unequal power relations between men and women and that all forms of violence against women seriously violate and impair or nullify the enjoyment by women of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and constitute a major impediment to the ability of women to make use of their capabilities,

Recognizing also that women's poverty and lack of empowerment, as well as their marginalization resulting from their exclusion from social policies and from the benefits of sustainable development, can place them at increased risk of violence, and that violence against women impedes the social and economic development of communities and States, as well as the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing further that the empowerment of women, by ensuring their full representation and full and equal participation at all levels of decision-making, is important in eliminating violence against women and girls,

Acknowledging the need to address violence against women holistically, including through the recognition of linkages between violence against women and

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[4] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[5] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/232.

[6] See resolution 55/2.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

other issues such as HIV/AIDS, poverty eradication, food security, peace and security, humanitarian assistance, health and crime prevention,

Expressing its appreciation for the high number of activities undertaken by States to eliminate all forms of violence against women, such as by enacting or amending legislation relating to acts of violence against women and adopting comprehensive national action plans to combat such violence,

Recognizing the important role of civil society, in particular women's organizations, in the efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women,

1. *Stresses* that "violence against women" means any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life;

2. *Recognizes* that violence against women and girls persists in every country in the world as a pervasive violation of the enjoyment of human rights and a major impediment to achieving gender equality, development, peace and the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Expresses concern* about the continued level of impunity for acts of violence against women worldwide;

4. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women[8] and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the elimination of rape and other forms of sexual violence in all their manifestations, including in conflict and related situations;[9]

5. *Welcomes also* the efforts and important contributions at the local, national, regional and international levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including by the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, in particular the second thematic report on violence against women, its causes and consequences[10] submitted by the Special Rapporteur to the Human Rights Council in 2008;

6. *Recognizes* the important role of the family in preventing and combating violence against women and girls and the need to support its capacity to prevent and combat violence against women;

7. *Welcomes* the launch of the Secretary-General's campaign to end violence against women, "UNiTE to End Violence against Women", supported, inter alia, by the advocacy campaign of the United Nations Development Fund for Women, "Say NO to violence against women" and the United Nations inter-agency initiative "Stop Rape Now: United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict", and stresses the need to ensure that concrete follow-up activities will be undertaken by the United Nations system to intensify action to end violence against women, in close consultation with existing system-wide activities on violence against women, and requests the Secretary-General to identify, announce and report on the basis of the expected results of his campaign;

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[8] A/63/214.

[9] A/63/216.

[10] A/HRC/7/6.

8. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence against women and girls, whether these acts are perpetrated by the State, by private persons or by non-State actors, and calls for the elimination of all forms of gender-based violence in the family, within the general community and where perpetrated or condoned by the State;

9. *Stresses* that it is important that States strongly condemn all forms of violence against women and refrain from invoking any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination as set out in the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women;[2]

10. *Stresses also* that States have the obligation to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls and must exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against women and girls and to provide protection to the victims, and that failure to do so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

11. *Urges* States to end impunity for violence against women, by investigating, prosecuting with due process, and punishing all perpetrators, by ensuring that women have equal protection of the law and equal access to justice and by holding up to public scrutiny and eliminating those attitudes that foster, justify or tolerate all forms of violence against women and girls;

12. *Reaffirms* that the persistence of armed conflict in various parts of the world is a major impediment to the elimination of all forms of violence against women and, bearing in mind that armed and other types of conflict, terrorism and hostage-taking still persist in many parts of the world and that aggression, foreign occupation and ethnic and other types of conflict are an ongoing reality affecting women and men in nearly every region, calls upon all States and the international community to place particular focus on and give priority attention and increased assistance to the plight and suffering of women and girls living in such situations and to ensure that where violence is committed against women and girls, all perpetrators of such violence are duly investigated and, as appropriate, prosecuted and punished in order to end impunity, while stressing the need to respect international humanitarian law and human rights law;

13. *Stresses* the need for the exclusion of killing and maiming of women and girls, as prohibited under international law, and sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes;

14. *Stresses also* that States should take measures to ensure that all officials responsible for implementing policies and programmes aimed at preventing violence against women, protecting and assisting the victims, and investigating and punishing violence against women, receive proper training to sensitize them to the different and specific needs of women, in particular women who have been subject to violence, so that women are not re-victimized when seeking justice and redress;

15. *Stresses further* that States should take all possible measures to empower women and inform them of their rights in seeking redress through mechanisms of justice, inform everyone of women's rights and of the existing penalties for violating those rights, and engage men and boys as well as families as agents of change in preventing and condemning violence against women;

16. *Urges* States to continue to develop their national strategy and a more systematic, comprehensive, multisectoral and sustained approach aimed at eliminating all forms of violence against women, including through achieving gender equality and empowerment of women, and by using best practices to end impunity and a culture of tolerance towards violence against women, inter alia in the fields of legislation, prevention, law enforcement, victim assistance and rehabilitation, such as:

(a) Establishing, in partnership with all relevant stakeholders, a comprehensive integrated national plan dedicated to combating violence against women in all its aspects, which includes data collection and analysis, prevention and protection measures, as well as national information campaigns using resources to eliminate in the media gender stereotypes that lead to violence against women and girls;

(b) Reviewing and, where appropriate, revising, amending or abolishing all laws, regulations, policies, practices and customs that discriminate against women or have a discriminatory impact on women, and ensuring that provisions of multiple legal systems, where they exist, comply with international human rights obligations, commitments and principles, including the principle of non-discrimination;

(c) Evaluating and assessing the impact of current legislation, rules and procedures regarding violence against women, including the reasons for low reporting, and, where necessary, reinforcing criminal law and procedure relating to all forms of violence against women and, where necessary, incorporating into law measures aimed at preventing violence against women;

(d) Ensuring that there is sufficient knowledge, including expertise in effective legal approaches to eliminate violence against women, awareness and coordination in the legal system and, to that end, where appropriate, appointing a focal point in the legal system for cases of violence against women;

(e) Ensuring the systematic collection and analysis of data to monitor all forms of violence against women, while ensuring and maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of the victims, including with the involvement of national statistical offices and, where appropriate, in partnership with other actors;

(f) Establishing appropriate national mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating implementation of national measures, including national action plans, taken to eliminate violence against women and girls, including through the use of national indicators;

(g) Providing adequate financial support for the implementation of national action plans to end violence against women and other relevant activities;

(h) Allocating adequate resources to promote the empowerment of women and gender equality and to prevent and redress all forms and manifestations of violence against women;

(i) Adopting all appropriate measures, especially in the field of education, to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women and to eliminate prejudices, customary practices and all other practices based on the idea of the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes and on stereotyped roles for men and women;

(j) Empowering women, in particular women living in poverty, through, inter alia, social and economic policies that guarantee them full and equal access to all levels of quality education and training and to affordable and adequate public and social services, as well as equal access to financial resources and full and equal rights to own land and other property, and to take further appropriate measures to address the increasing rate of homelessness or inadequate housing for women in order to reduce their vulnerability to violence;

(k) Treating all forms of violence against women and girls as a criminal offence, punishable by law, and ensuring penalties commensurate with the severity of the crimes and sanctions in domestic legislation to punish and redress, as appropriate, the wrongs caused to women who are subjected to violence;

(l) Taking effective measures to avoid that the victim's consent becomes an impediment to bringing perpetrators of violence against women to justice, while ensuring that appropriate safeguards to protect the victim are in place;

(m) Ensuring that effective legal assistance is available to all female victims of violence so that they can make informed decisions regarding, inter alia, legal proceedings and issues related to family law, and also ensuring that victims have access to just and effective remedies for the harm that they have suffered, including through the adoption of national legislation where necessary;

(n) Ensuring that all relevant public officials coordinate effectively in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of all forms of violence against women, and provide protection and support to victims;

(o) Developing or improving and disseminating specialized training programmes, including practical tools and good practices guidelines on how to identify, prevent and deal with cases of violence against women and on how to assist victims, for police officers, the judiciary, health workers, law enforcement personnel and other relevant public authorities;

(p) Strengthening national health and social infrastructure to reinforce measures to promote women's equal access to public health and address the health consequences of all forms of violence against women, including by providing support to victims;

(q) Establishing or supporting integrated centres through which shelter, legal, health, psychological, counselling and other services are provided to victims of all forms of violence against women, and where such centres are not yet feasible, promoting collaboration and coordination among agencies, in order to make remedies more accessible and to facilitate the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims, and ensuring that victims have access to such services;

(r) Ensuring adequate and comprehensive rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of violence into society;

(s) Ensuring that the prison system and probation services provide appropriate rehabilitation programmes for perpetrators, as a preventive tool to avoid recidivism;

(t) Supporting and engaging in partnerships with non-governmental organizations, in particular women's organizations, and other relevant actors and the private sector to end violence against women;

17. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system and, as appropriate, regional and subregional organizations, to support national efforts to promote the empowerment of women and gender equality in order to enhance national efforts to eliminate violence against women and girls, including, upon request, in the development and implementation of national action plans on the elimination of violence against women and girls, through, inter alia, and taking into account national priorities, official development assistance and other appropriate assistance, such as facilitating the sharing of guidelines, methodologies and best practices;

18. *Stresses* the contribution of the International Criminal Court and the ad hoc international criminal tribunals in ending impunity through ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators of violence against women, and urges States to consider ratifying or acceding as a matter of priority to the Rome Statute,[7] which entered into force on 1 July 2002;

19. *Welcomes* the steps taken by several United Nations bodies to discuss, within their respective mandates, the question of violence against women in all its forms and manifestations, and encourages all relevant bodies to continue to address this issue in their future efforts and work programmes;

20. *Reiterates* its request to the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality to consider ways and means to enhance the effectiveness of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women as a system-wide funding mechanism for preventing and redressing all forms of violence against women and girls, and in this regard stresses the importance of new and increased contributions from all States to the Fund in order to achieve the target set by the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

21. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to intensify their efforts at all levels to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls and to better coordinate their work, inter alia through the Task Force on Violence against Women of the Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit:

(a) To the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, a report with information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on their follow-up activities to implement General Assembly resolutions 61/143, 62/133 and the present resolution, including on their assistance to States in their efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women;

(b) To the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session, a report with information provided by States on their follow-up activities to implement the present resolution;

23. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present an oral report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-third session with information provided by the United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies on recent follow-up activities to implement resolution 61/143 and resolution 62/133, including on the progress made on enhancing the effectiveness of the United Nations Trust Fund in Support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women as a system-wide United Nations mechanism and on the progress of the

Secretary-General's campaign to end violence against women, and urges United Nations bodies, entities, funds and programmes and the specialized agencies to contribute promptly to that report;

24. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this question at its sixty-fourth session under the item on advancement of women.

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Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines and Senegal: revised draft resolution

Trafficking in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Recalling all international conventions that deal specifically with the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[1] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[2] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[3] and the Optional Protocol thereto on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[4] the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[5] and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[6] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[7] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[8] as well as previous resolutions of the General Assembly, and its subsidiary body, the Human Rights Council, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions on the issue,

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.
[2] Ibid., vol. 2131, No. 20378.
[3] Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.
[4] Ibid., vol. 2171, No. 27531.
[5] Ibid., vol. 96, No. 1342.
[6] Ibid., vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[7] Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.
[8] Ibid., vol. 2241, No. 39574.

08-59638 (E) 111108

Reaffirming the provisions pertaining to trafficking in women and girls contained in the outcome documents of relevant international conferences and summits, in particular the strategic objective on the issue of trafficking contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[9]

Reaffirming also the commitment made by world leaders at the Millennium Summit and the 2005 World Summit to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in persons to counter the demand for trafficked victims and to protect the victims,

Recalling the reports of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, as well as the information that deals with trafficking in women and girls contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth study on all forms of violence against women,[10]

Recalling also the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled "Trafficking in Persons: Global Patterns" and the attention paid in it to the situation of trafficked women and girls,

Taking note of the Vienna Forum to Fight Human Trafficking, held from 13 to 15 February 2008, in the framework of the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking, and of the thematic debate on the issue of trafficking in persons, held on 3 June 2008, in the framework of the General Assembly,

Taking note also of the renewal of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and of the fact that part of her task is to integrate a gender- and age-specific perspective throughout the work of her mandate, inter alia, through the identification of gender- and age-specific vulnerabilities in relation to the issue of trafficking in persons,

Acknowledging the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[11] which entered into force on 1 July 2002,

Bearing in mind that all States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons, and to rescue victims as well as provide for their protection and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of the victims,

Seriously concerned that an increasing number of women and girls from some developing countries and countries with economies in transition are being trafficked to developed countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and that men and boys are also victims of trafficking, including for sexual exploitation,

Recognizing that certain efforts against trafficking in persons lack the gender- and age-sensitivity needed to address effectively the situation of women and girls who are particularly vulnerable to trafficking for the purposes of sexual exploitation,

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[9] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[10] A/61/122 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1.

[11] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2187, No. 38544.

forced labour, services, and other forms of exploitation, thus highlighting the need to incorporate a gender- and age-sensitive approach in all anti-trafficking efforts,

Recognizing also the need to address the impact of globalization on the particular problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls,

Recognizing further the challenges to combating trafficking in women and girls owing to the lack of adequate legislation and implementation of existing legislation, the lack of availability of reliable sex-disaggregated data and statistics, and the lack of resources,

Concerned about the use of new information technologies, including the Internet, for purposes of exploitation of the prostitution of others, for trafficking in women as brides, for sex tourism exploiting women and children and for child pornography, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation of children,

Concerned also about the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from international trafficking in persons, especially women and children, without regard to dangerous and inhuman conditions and in flagrant violation of domestic laws and international standards,

Recognizing that victims of trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that women and girl victims are often subject to multiple forms of discrimination and violence, including on the grounds of their gender, age, ethnicity, culture and religion, as well as their origins, and that these forms of discrimination themselves may fuel trafficking in persons,

Noting that some of the demand for prostitution and forced labour is met by trafficking in persons, in some parts of the world,

Acknowledging that women and girl victims of trafficking, on account of their gender, are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information or awareness and recognition of their human rights and by the stigmatization often associated with trafficking, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to information and recourse mechanisms in cases of violation of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

Reaffirming the importance of bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation mechanisms and initiatives, including information exchanges on best practices, of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Reaffirming also that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate trafficking in persons, especially women and children, demand the strong political commitment, shared responsibility and active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

Recognizing that policies and programmes for prevention, rehabilitation, repatriation and reintegration should be developed through a gender- and age-sensitive, comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach, with concern for the security of the victims and respect for the full enjoyment of their human rights and with the involvement of all actors in countries of origin, transit and destination,

Convinced of the need to protect and assist all victims of trafficking, with full respect for the victims' human rights,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of Governments, United Nations bodies and agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls, and encourages them to enhance their efforts and cooperation, including by sharing their knowledge, technical expertise and best practices as widely as possible;

2. *Calls upon* Governments to discourage, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters the trafficking of women and girls for all forms of exploitation, and, in this regard, enhance preventive measures, including legislative measures, to deter exploiters of trafficked persons, as well as ensure their accountability;

3. *Also calls upon* Governments to take appropriate measures to address the factors that increase vulnerability to being trafficked, including poverty and gender inequality, as well as other factors that encourage the particular problem of trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriage and forced labour, in order to prevent and eliminate such trafficking, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

4. *Calls upon* Governments, the international community and all other organizations and entities that deal with conflict and post-conflict, disaster and other emergency situations to address the heightened vulnerability of women and girls to trafficking and exploitation, and associated gender-based violence;

5. *Urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective gender- and age-sensitive measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual and economic exploitation, as part of a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy that integrates a human rights perspective, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans in this regard;

6. *Urges* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support and allocate resources to strengthen preventive action, in particular education for women and men, as well as for girls and boys, on gender equality, self-respect and mutual respect, and campaigns, carried out in collaboration with civil society, to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels;

7. *Encourages* Governments to take appropriate measures to eliminate sex tourism demand, especially of children, through all possible preventive actions;

8. *Urges* Governments to develop educational and training programmes and policies and consider, as appropriate, enacting legislation aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

9. *Also urges* Governments to consider signing and ratifying and States parties to implement relevant United Nations legal instruments, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[6] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[7] the Convention on the

Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[1] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[3] the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[2] and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[4] as well as the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (Convention No. 29), the Convention concerning Discrimination in respect of Employment and Occupation, 1958 (Convention No. 111) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182), of the International Labour Organization;

10. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen national programmes and to engage in bilateral, subregional, regional and international cooperation, including by forging regional initiatives or plans of action,[12] to address the problem of trafficking in persons through, inter alia, the enhancement of information-sharing, gender- and age-specific data collection and other technical capacities, and mutual legal assistance, as well as the combating of corruption and laundering of proceeds derived from trafficking, including for purposes of commercial sexual exploitation, and to ensure that such agreements and initiatives are particularly responsive to the problem of trafficking as it affects women and girls;

11. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize all forms of trafficking in persons, recognizing its increasing occurrence for purposes of sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and abuse, sex tourism, and forced labour, and to bring to justice and punish the offenders and intermediaries involved, whether local or foreign, through the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with due process of law, as well as to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

12. *Urges* Governments to take all appropriate measures to ensure that victims of trafficking are not penalized for being trafficked and that they do not suffer from revictimization as a result of actions taken by government authorities, and encourages Governments to prevent, within their legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of trafficking in persons from being prosecuted for their illegal entry or residence;

13. *Invites* Governments to consider setting up or strengthening a national coordinating mechanism, for example, a national rapporteur or an inter-agency body, with the participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, root

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[12] Such as the Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking, the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (see A/C.3/55/3, annex), the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed most recently in the European Union plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings, adopted in December 2005, the activities of the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution, the Organization of American States Meeting of National Authorities on Trafficking in Persons, and the activities of the International Labour Organization and the International Organization for Migration in this field.

causes, factors and trends in violence against women, in particular trafficking, and to include data disaggregated by sex and age;

14. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, within existing resources, to take appropriate measure to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly in women and girls; to discourage, with a view to eliminating, the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation, including sexual exploitation and forced labour; to publicize the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue; and to emphasize that trafficking is a serious crime;

15. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide comprehensive programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking, including through job training, legal assistance, including in a language that they can understand, and health care, including for HIV/AIDS, and by taking measures to cooperate with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims;

16. *Encourages* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to undertake or strengthen campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations and rights in the event of migration, as well as information on the risks of irregular migration and the ways and means used by traffickers, so as to enable women to make informed decisions and to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking;

17. *Encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations to develop and implement gender- and age-sensitive programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of trafficking and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims;

18. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for law enforcement, judicial, immigration and other relevant officials in the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons, including the sexual exploitation of women and girls, and in this regard, calls upon Governments to ensure that the treatment of victims of trafficking, especially by law enforcers, immigration officers, consular officials, social workers and other first-response officials, is conducted with full respect for the human rights of those victims, with gender- and age-sensitivity, and observes the principles of non-discrimination, including the prohibition of racial discrimination;

19. *Invites* Governments to take steps to ensure that criminal justice procedures and witness protection programmes are sensitive to the particular situation of trafficked women and girls and that they are supported and assisted, as appropriate, in making complaints to the police or other authorities, without fear, and being available when required by the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time they have access to gender- and age-sensitive protection and, as appropriate, social, medical, financial and legal assistance, including the possibility of obtaining compensation for damages suffered;

20. *Also invites* Governments to encourage media providers, including Internet service providers, to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of media, particularly the Internet, with a view to eliminating the exploitation of women and children, in particular girls, which could foster trafficking;

21. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism and telecommunications industries, including mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, including through the dissemination by the media of information regarding the dangers of trafficking, the rights of trafficked persons and the services available to victims of trafficking;

22. *Stresses* the need for the systematic collection of sex- and age-disaggregated data and comprehensive studies at both the national and the international levels and the development of common methodologies and internationally defined indicators to make it possible to develop relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to enhance information-sharing and data-collection capacity as a way of promoting cooperation to combat the trafficking problem;

23. *Invites* Governments, United Nations bodies, agencies and special mechanisms, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to undertake collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

24. *Invites* Governments, with the support of the United Nations, when necessary, and other intergovernmental organizations, taking into account best practices, to formulate training manuals and other informational materials and provide training for law enforcement, judicial and other relevant officers, and medical and support personnel, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of women and girl victims;

25. *Encourages* Governments, relevant intergovernmental bodies and international organizations to ensure that military, peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel deployed in conflict, post-conflict and other emergency situations are provided training on conduct that does not promote, facilitate or exploit trafficking in women and girls, including for sexual exploitation, and to raise the awareness of such personnel of the potential risks to victims of conflict and other emergency situations, including natural disasters, of being trafficked;

26. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenants on Human Rights[13] to include information and statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to their respective committees and to work towards developing a common methodology and statistics to obtain comparable data;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a report that compiles successful interventions and strategies, as well as the gaps, in addressing the gender dimensions of the problem of trafficking in persons, and provides recommendations on the strengthening of gender- and age-sensitive approaches within the various aspects of efforts to address trafficking in persons.

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[13] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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Sixty-third session
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Agenda item 56
Advancement of women

Antigua and Barbuda:* revised draft resolution

Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling all of its previous resolutions on the situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in particular resolution 60/229 of 23 December 2005,

Recalling also its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Acknowledging resolution 62/227 of 22 December 2007, in particular its gender-specific provisions, and, in this context, encouraging the ongoing work on gender equality and empowerment of women,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/37 of 27 July 2007, in which the Council reaffirmed the specific mandate of the Institute to conduct research and training for gender equality and the empowerment of women as a central focal point for research and training on gender issues within the United Nations system,

Taking into account Commission on the Status of Women resolution 52/3 of 7 March 2008, entitled "Strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women",[1]

Welcoming the contributions of the Institute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[2] and the implementation

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 7* (E/2008/27), chap. I, sect. D.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

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of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[3] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[4]

Taking note with appreciation of the progress report on the Institute by its Director with respect to the implementation of the programme of work for the period from 15 May to 30 September 2008,[5] which measures progress through the utilization of indicators of achievement as established in the workplan for 2008,[6]

Welcoming the approval by the Executive Board of the Institute of the revised workplan for 2008 and its endorsement of the operational budget for 2008,[7]

Acknowledging the contributions of the Institute in promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women in the areas of security, international migration, in particular remittances and development, and governance and political participation,

Recognizing the contribution of the Institute to the ongoing efforts in gender mainstreaming through its research and training outputs involving national gender machineries, academic institutes, regional intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations and the private sector,

Reaffirming the importance of seeking medium-term sustainable financial resources for the Institute,

Welcoming the activities undertaken by the Director of the Institute to actively promote a fund-raising strategy for the Institute,

Expressing its satisfaction with the progress of the Institute in the area of resource mobilization, which has enabled the Institute to fully reimburse the amount committed by the Secretary-General on an exceptional basis from the United Nations regular budget, and recognizing the improved financial standing of the Institute,

Recognizing that the implementation of the programme of work and strategic plan of the Institute will contribute to a comprehensive discussion on international migration and development from a gender perspective,

1. *Requests* the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, in accordance with its mandate, to coordinate further its activities and to develop its programme of work in collaboration with other relevant United Nations entities, such as the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Gender Unit in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, and calls upon those entities to continue their collaborative efforts;

2. *Also requests* the Institute, in accordance with its mandate, to collaborate with the United Nations system, national machinery, non-governmental

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[3] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[4] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[5] INSTRAW/EB/2008/R.13.

[6] INSTRAW/EB/2007/R.4/Rev.1.

[7] See INSTRAW/EB/2007/R.14, para. 6.

organizations and the private sector in promoting international cooperation to foster women's empowerment and gender equality, including through, inter alia, the promotion of better access to education for women and girls and the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in all policies and programmes;

3. *Further requests* the Institute, in accordance with its mandate and in close coordination with the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations programmes and funds, to actively participate in and contribute to discussions on issues related to international migration and development;

4. *Invites* the Institute to continue, in close cooperation with other relevant United Nations bodies, to promote and undertake research and training programmes on gender mainstreaming, in the context of the Millennium Development Goals, the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[2] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[3] as well as the commitments made at the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[4]

5. *Requests* the Institute, within its mandate, to continue to assist countries in promoting and supporting the political participation and economic and social advancement of women through training programmes;

6. *Stresses* the critical importance of voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to enable it to carry out its mandate, and invites Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

7. *Calls for* the diversification of funding resources and, in this regard, invites Member States to continue providing assistance and support to the Institute through voluntary contributions and substantive involvement in its projects and activities;

8. *Looks forward* to the enhanced implementation of the strategic plan of the Institute under the leadership of the new Director, to be appointed shortly by the Secretary-General;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide, within existing resources, appropriate administrative assistance and support to the Institute, in accordance with the provisions of the statute of the Institute, including by enhancing coordination among the Institute, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Department of Management, in order to ensure that the objectives of the strategic plan, including resource mobilization efforts, are effectively and efficiently carried out;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include information on the implementation of the present resolution in his report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009 through the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-third session, and to submit his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session.